

Silver City Tragedy Details

FULL PARTICULARS OF DESPERATE ENCOUNTER BETWEEN COWBOYS AND OFFICERS.

Was Result of Drunken Row—Game Fight Put Up by Deputy Sheriff Murray Against Great Odds.

(Lordsburg Liberal.)

There was a terrible tragedy in Silver City, Sunday morning, Aug. 28th, which resulted in the death of Perfecto Rodriguez, the probable mortal wounding of W. H. Kilburn, city marshal, and the wounding of Pat Nunn and Howard Chenoweth. Pat Nunn, foreman of Icteria ranches, and Mart Kennedy and Howard Chenoweth, cowboys working for him were in town. Kennedy and Chenoweth had been drinking and were the worse for liquor. In the evening Nunn got ready to leave town, and finding his two men in the condition they were, wanted them to go with him. They refused. Nunn insisted and Kennedy said he would quit his job and took the saddle off his horse, called Nunn a fighting name, and told him to take the horse. Nunn took off his six-shooter and beat, and laid them on the sidewalk and started after Kennedy and soon had him licked. Chenoweth picked up Nunn's gun and went to Kennedy's aid. His first shot at Nunn scraped across his breast, hit and smashed the watch in his shirt pocket. Nunn was dazed and tried to get into the Club house saloon, in front of which this happened. The next shot missed, the next hit an iron post and split, one piece scraped across Nunn's forehead, making a skin wound, which bled freely, blinding Nunn. Deputy Sheriff Murray tried to take the gun away from Chenoweth, and had a struggle with him and Kennedy, who had come to his aid. Perfecto Rodriguez heard the shooting and ran to help the officer. Chenoweth shot him through the heart, from the effect of which he died instantly. The struggle between the three men continued. Murray working at Chenoweth with one hand, trying to disarm him, and Kennedy with the other, trying to keep him from drawing his gun. Marshal Kilburn was awakened by the shots, thought it was a fire, hastily dressed and came down to where the fight was going on. Murray had Chenoweth's gun arm in the air, the pistol pointing upward. When Kilburn came up, Chenoweth jerked his arm down and shot, the bullet hitting Kilburn in the neck, making a fatal wound. The struggle continued up the street to the corner, where Chenoweth and Kennedy made their escape. Kennedy soon showed up in the Palace saloon, where he was arrested. John Collier, a former ranger, was deputized as an officer and with others was taking Chenoweth to jail, when he discovered Chenoweth hid behind some boxes in front of Lindauer's store. He went along as he was not prepared to take Chenoweth. He got a shot gun and then went back and called to Chenoweth to come out and surrender. This he refused to do. The call and refusal were made several times. Finally, Chenoweth came out, pistol in hand, which he raised to fire, as he did so, Collier fired, the shot tearing away the side of his face. The shot were No. 6, if they had been buckshot, Chenoweth would probably have been killed. Both Chenoweth and Nunn are expected to recover. Chenoweth and Kennedy are in jail on the charge of murder. It is said that Kennedy urged Chenoweth on in the fight, thus becoming a principal. Chenoweth is a young man, not more than twenty-one. He is a son of J. A. Chenoweth, of the San Simon. He was brought up in a fighting atmosphere, and had heard many tales of the great fighting done by relatives and friends, and probably became impressed with the idea that on a proper occasion he

Sounded a False Alarm

NO CONTRACT LABOR FROM FOREIGN PORTS EMPLOYED HERE.

Office of Inspector at Douglas Was Notified That a Number of English Miners Were on Way to Bisbee—Investigation Proved Error.

It has leaked out that Immigrant Inspector Murphy's visit here from Douglas recently was to investigate a rumor that one of the mining companies was employing contract labor brought here from England.

A short time ago word was sent to the inspector's office at Douglas that a party of English miners had just landed in New York and were on their way to Bisbee to go to work bound by contract with one of the mining companies. When Inspector Murphy reached Bisbee he located the Englishmen but they had not gone to work; they had been looking for work all over Bisbee district, but had not found employment. One of them is about to leave Bisbee to hunt work in other camps. This satisfied the officer that there was no truth to the contract story and he returned to Douglas and will report the result of the investigation. What gave rise to the suspicion that these men were contract labor was a remark made shortly after landing; they stated, and it came to the ears of the United States authorities, that they were going to Bisbee to work in one of the mines. The men were watched and they did go to Bisbee; this gave rise to suspicions that English miners were being imported. The men were given time to go to work and then the affair was investigated from this end and found to be without foundation.

From Hereford—W. J. Francis was a business visitor in the city yesterday from Hereford. He states that improved range conditions have revived old time prosperity and activity in that section.

Takes Part of Building—W. H. Moffett has closed a lease for part of the new Buxton-Smith building in Brewery Gulch. Mr. Moffett will engage in the second hand furniture business in the portion of the building he gets.

Tearing Down Antiseuer—Workmen yesterday commenced wrecking the Antiseuer saloon building on Main street. It is on the site of this building that the foundation will be commenced, as soon as the ground is cleared, for the new Miners' and Merchants' Bank.

The big fans keep going while you are eating, at the English Kitchen. must fight, and fight to kill. He made the great mistake of thinking this was the proper occasion. The New Mexico statutes describe murder in the first degree as "the unlawful killing of a human being with malice aforethought, either expressed or implied." It defines malice implied to be "when no considerable provocation appears." From all accounts there was no provocation in this case. The penalty for murder in the first degree is death. The Chenoweth family is well known in this section of the country, having lived in the San Simon valley for more than twenty years, where Mr. Chenoweth occasionally appears as preacher in the Christian church. The family have the sympathy of a wide circle of friends in this great affliction.

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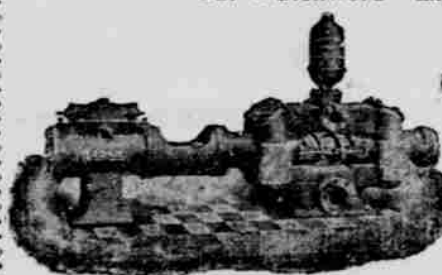
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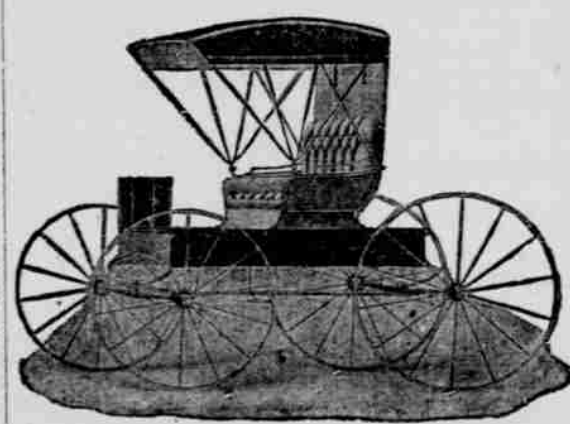
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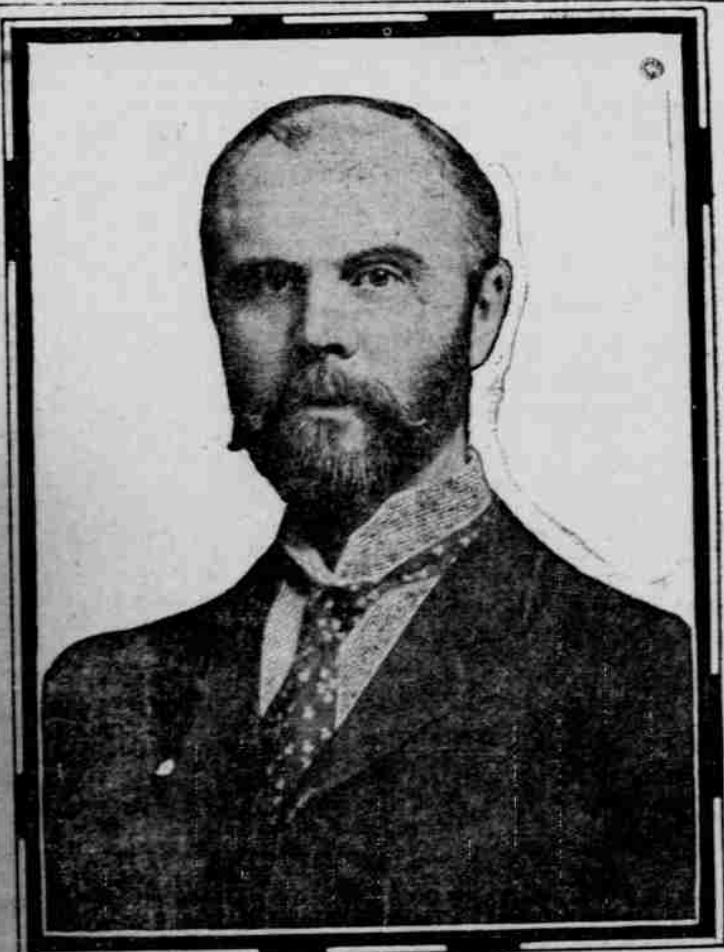
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